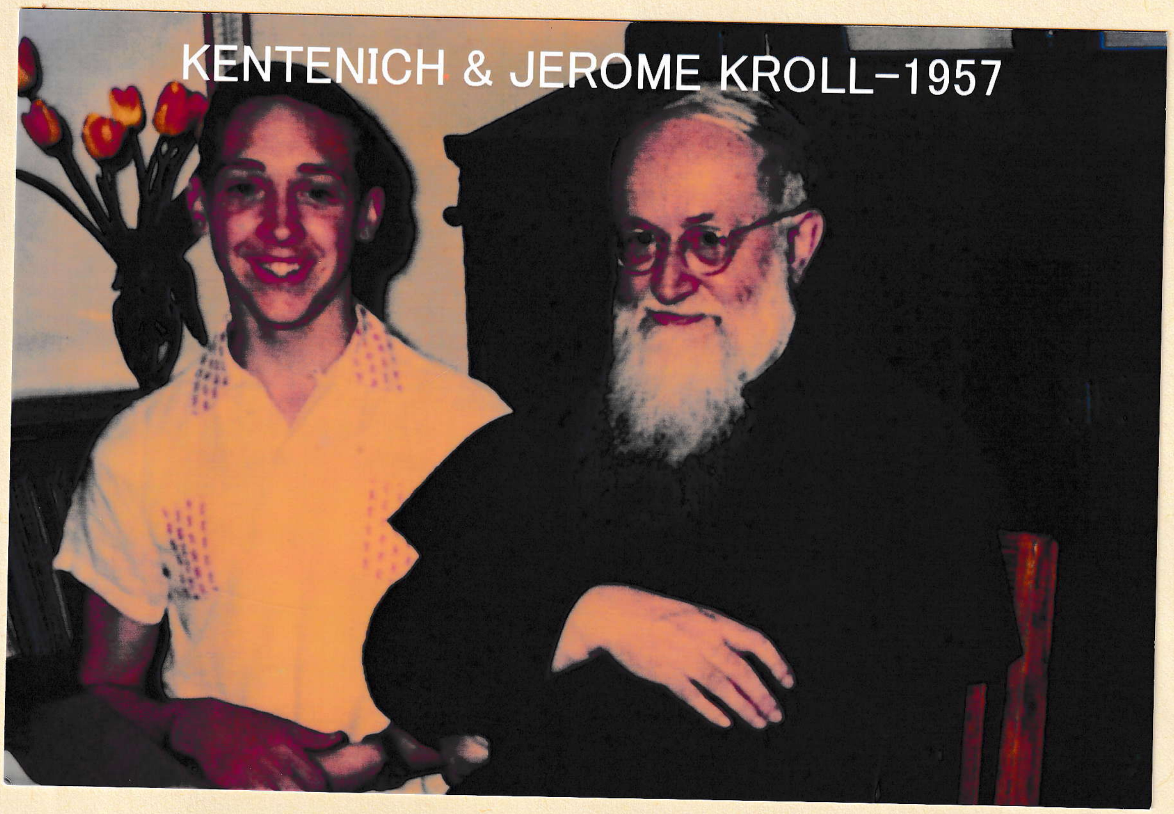

KENTENICH & JEROME KROLL–1957

Father Joseph Kentenich was Jerome E. Kroll
Spiritual Director, confessor, and mentor.

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Father Kentenich (1956) finds house like a prison.

Father Kentenich said to Sister Winifrede: “I am use to a lot of movement, this house is like a prison. My bedroom is small. If I go into the priest recreational room. I cough because the priests smoke too much. I don’t have a car so I can’t go any where."

The shower isn’t private. Beside saying mass all I can do is go between my bedroom and my office”. Sister Winifrede said: “You need to begin to write more and correspond more to keep you busy.” Father Kentenich: “It’s like I said once before I feel like during the last forty years I have done nothing but saying “yes” to people who ask me questions”.

Sister Winifrede replied: “Perhaps you should have said yes to Father Sebastian Tromp when he asked you to resign your position as Spiritual Director to the Schoenstatt Sisters”. Father Kentenich: “I am so stubborn well it is to late to say “yes” now. Now I here banish in this little house in Milwaukee. But you sister give me comfort”. Than Father Kentenich places his hand gently on Sister Winifrede shoulder.

Than Sister Winifrede sat down a the typewriter and said: “Let get started”. Father Kentenich began his essay: “We need only recall the occasion on which Mary sang...”.

Father Kentenich in the Attic

Jerome build a huge garden box in the attic of the third floor in a window facing the south side from the window you could see the entrance to calvary cemetery. Jerome lined the large garden box with plastic. The box held about two bushels of ground.

Jerome planted plants that were grown outside in the box. He also brought up two huge Christmas cactus that were in the window of the refectory (dining room) up to this window where the plants bloom profusely. While Jerome was watering the plants Father Kentenich with a heavy step came up the stairs next to Brother Frank room.

Father Kentenich went to the heavy door which ran east and west of the attic. He tried to turn the big key and it wouldn't turn. Father Kentenich called: "Would you help me open the door , my hand can't turn the key. I'm just getting too old." Jerome walked over to the door turned the key and said: "See no problem Father you just have to push the key in further."

Jerome follows Father Kentenich into the attic which held rows upon rows of books in German. Father Kentenich seem to know what shelves to go to. Jerome looks at one of the books and couldn't read a thing.

Father Kentenich piles some books into Jerome's arms and said: "Please take these books down to my office on the second floor." Jerome with the books walks through the dormitory turns right and walks down the north staircase down to the second floor. Than to Father Kentenich's office and opens the door. Sister Winifrede who was in the office gets up off the couch and takes the books and places them into a book case build into the wall along the east side of the wall. Sister Winifrede asks: “Is Father coming soon.” Jerome says: “I don’t know I think Father Kentenich went down the other staircase.” Jerome says: “I got to go back into the attic to water the plants.” Sister Winifrede just smiles.

Mr. and Mrs. John Horning brings roses to the shrine.

When Jerome was praying in the Schoenstatt Shrine on Covenant Day (18th of each month) Mr. John Horning came into the shrine with two dozen roses. He was looking for some vases.

Jerome stated: “Mr. Horning the vases our up in the sacristy. Should I bring them down to the shrine.” Mr. Horning unpacked the red roses which was wrapped in green tissue and placed one dozen in each vase. Than placed the vases on each side of the tabernacle.

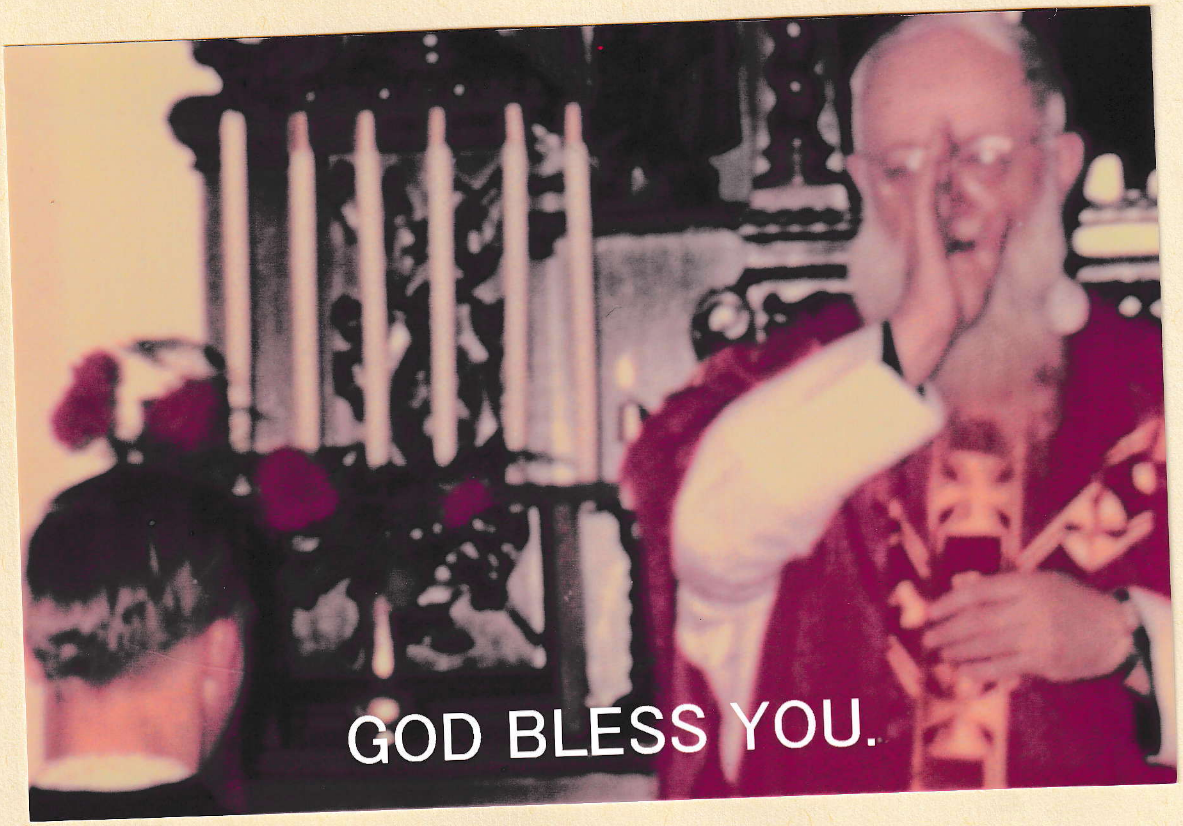
Than Mr. Horning stated: “I have to go to work now will be back in the evening with my wife to the hour of adoration”.

Sister Winifrede Sleeps in dormitory

Sister Winifrede was typing for father Kentenich and it was past 9:00 P.M. Father Kentenich says: “Sister I have checked out the dormitory on the third floor. I believe you can sleep in one of the cells without being seen by the priests.

I will go up to the dormitory and open the exit door. Than you can use the outside stair exit to get in. In the morning after the 5:50 a.m. mass than you can drive back to Madison. Don’t tell the other Schoenstatt Sisters you slept in the dormitory.”

As Sister Winifrede is laying in the bed she can hear the young brother candidates going into the bathroom and using the showers. She thinks to herself I hope later that I can reach the toilet when the Brother candidates are sleeping. Two hours later when she is tip toeing to the bathroom she hears the door open and she steps behind the curtain not to be detected. When the young man goes back into the dormitory. She than hurries to the bedroom and hopes she can reach the cell where she is sleeping before anyone see her.


GOD BLESS YOU.

Father Joseph Kentenich blessing
at Mass in the Exile Shrine
(Milwaukee, Wi)
Jerome Kroll is serving mass.

Father Kentenich sneaks food
every night from refrigerator

Father Kentenich even at advance age was overweight. He and the other priests did no manual work because they had domestic brothers and students who served them.

Father Kentenich while living at the Pallottine house never washed or dried any dishes, never prepared food, never washed or waxed a floor, never cleaned a window, never washed or ironed their own clothes.

Although Father Kentenich did not eat supper with the other priest. Jerome often saw Father Kentenich later in the evening going into the refrigerator to get food.

Since Father Kentenich was going into the refrigerator at night Jerome started to go in after him to especially see if there was any cake, donut or other sweets to eat. As far as Jerome was concern Father Kentenich could have the apples, oranges as long as he did not take the sweet cakes.

At meals a domestic student would stand in front of the tables and when the priest signal by raising his glass or cup the domestic student would immediate come pouring coffee or milk, as requested.

When Father Kentenich raised his glass of milk he wanted the domestic to fill it with a little coffee to warm up the milk.

EVENING MEAL 1957

Father Kentenich did not eat the evening meal.

Hail Mary, for your purity, take care of my body and my soul, that they are always pure like yours, open to me Your's, Your Son's, and my Father's heart, give me souls, give me brothers, and all other things and gifts could you retain for you.

J.K.

Ceaseless Writing

Since Father Kentenich did not have nothing to do in his retirement in Milwaukee he did ceaseless writing. Father Kentenich could not type and needed two different wire frame glasses.

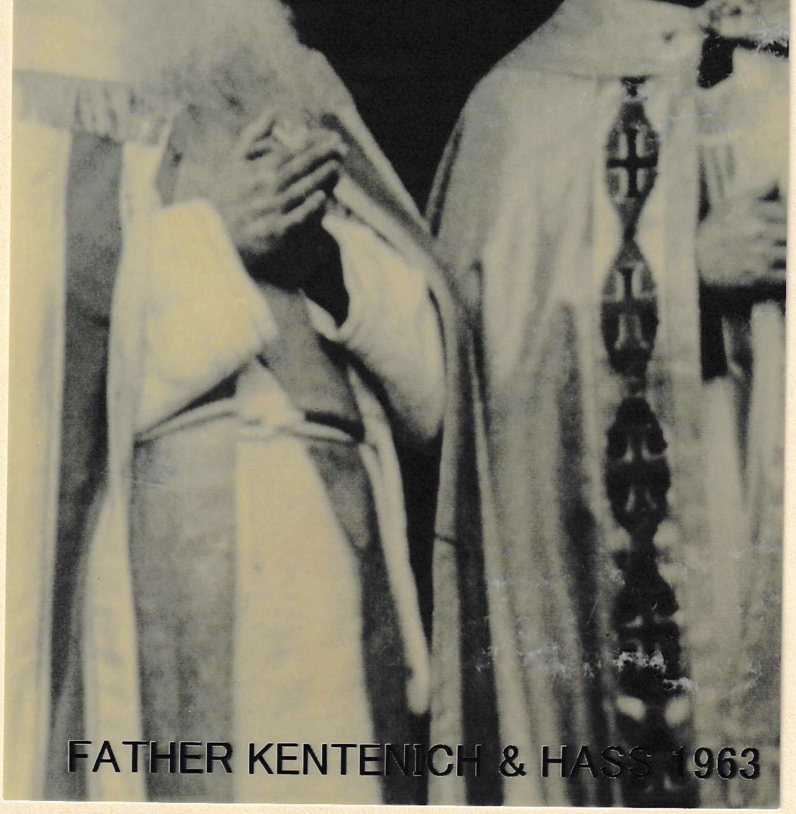
One gold wire frame glass he used for reading and another for long distance. To Jerome it always seem strange that all Father Kentenich letters were address to Mr. Day at a West Allis post office. The mail was distribute on top of a metal table over a heating radiator in the hall leading to the dining room.

The distribution was made about 11:45 a.m. every morning. Jerome made sure he got mail by sending for every free garden catalog in the United State. Jerome would always be planning for the big garden.

Meanwhile Father Kentenich would dictate to Sister Winifrede and she would type. Sister Winifrede must have been a very good secretary and she seem to enjoy the job. Sister Winifred probably furnish the stamps for the airmail postage.

Sister Winifrede worked on getting the Joseph Engling novena printed. Jerome was very happy to receive a copy and made a special cover for the novena so that it would not tear.

Since there wasn't much Schoenstatt material available this novena became special to Jerome. Jerome was not really attach or interested in the life of Joseph Engling because he was a Germany soldier.


FATHER KENTENICH & HASS 1963

Father Kentenich celebrating his golden jubilee of his ordination (1960). Father Joseph Hass is to his right. The gold vestments were borrowed from St. Leo's parish.

Father Kentenich was not a person who liked community living.

Father Kentenich although a Pallottine Father whose society lived a community life such as getting up together, eating together, and recreating together. Father Kentenich because of his long hours of involvement with the personal lives of communities which he founded especially the sisters for many years really didn't live a regular community life.

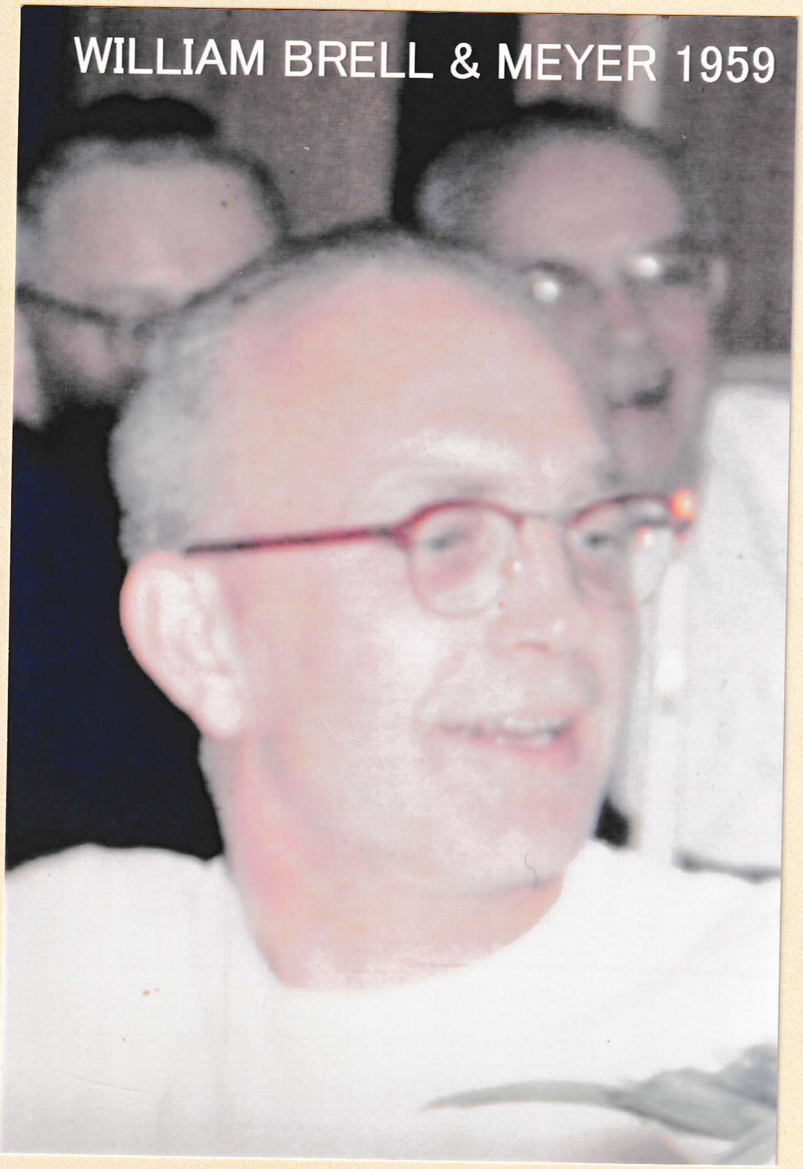
Even in exile in Milwaukee he was always late for afternoon prayers, he didn't eat at supper, nor did he ever recreate with any other priests. Thus he liked his freedom. The first few years of exile were the hardest but than he started to develop personal relationship through spiritual direction and confession.

He developed a special relationship with Jerome in that Jerome went often to get his blessing, than Father Kentenich started his individual relationships with the couples and could give them attention and thus started a personal relationship.

He needed these personal relationships to keep him sane. In Father Kentenich early priest years he found himself a very lonely man. Jerome finds in the life of Father Kentenich that while most priests allowed people to come to them. Father Kentenich went extremely out of his way to go to the places where individuals and priests lived. It seems that Father Kentenich often saw these people in their places of residence.

Father Kentenich was likeable but once he found out the weakness of individual he would bring these weakness up in conversation with these individuals.

In the case of Jerome Father Kentenich held Jerome's hands. It is most likely that Father Kentenich did a lot of touching, hugging, embracing with younger priests.



WILLIAM BRELL & MEYER 1959

Father William Brell a Pallottine Father greatly assisted in building up the Schoenstatt Movement in Milwaukee beginning in 1953. Father Brell translated Schoenstatt Material written in German to English and publishing the material in the monthly Pallottine magazine the Catholic Apostolate. Father Brell was one of the first Schoenstatt Fathers after Schoenstatt separated from the Pallottines. When he separated from the Pallottines he complained that he did not ask for pension compensation. The stain glass windows in Holy Cross Church were his design. His favor book which he published was “Forever on my lips”. Father Brell was always proud that his birthday fell on same day as Mary’s Birthday.

Father Brell

When Father Haas was made pastor of Holy Cross Church one of his first projects was to build a new rectory or priest house. The new two story building was to the south of the Pallottine Mother house.

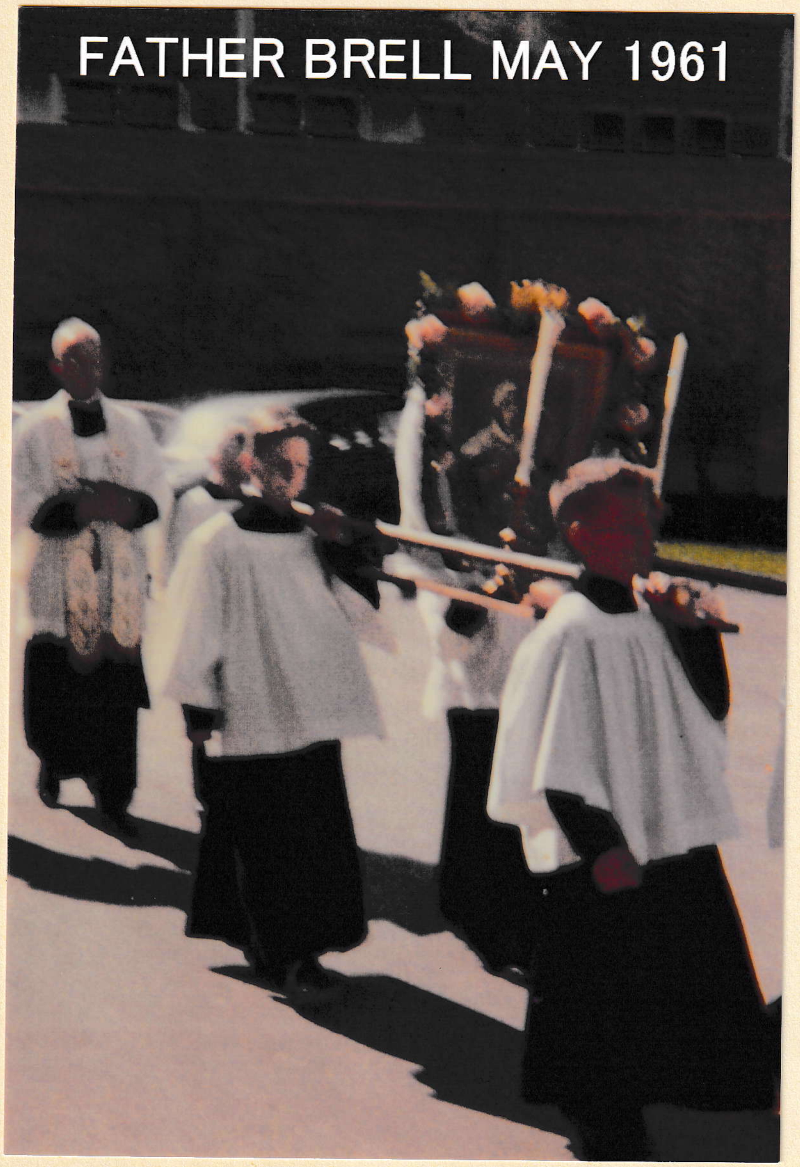
The building on the first floor had a reception area a kitchen and a large conference room. The second floor had two apartments. Father Brell lived in one apartment and Father Hass lived in another.

Father William Brell used to sit in the afternoon at a table in the conference room translating from German to English "Everyday Sanctity" to be published in the Pallottine magazine "Catholic Apostolate". Father Brell was very precise and exacting..

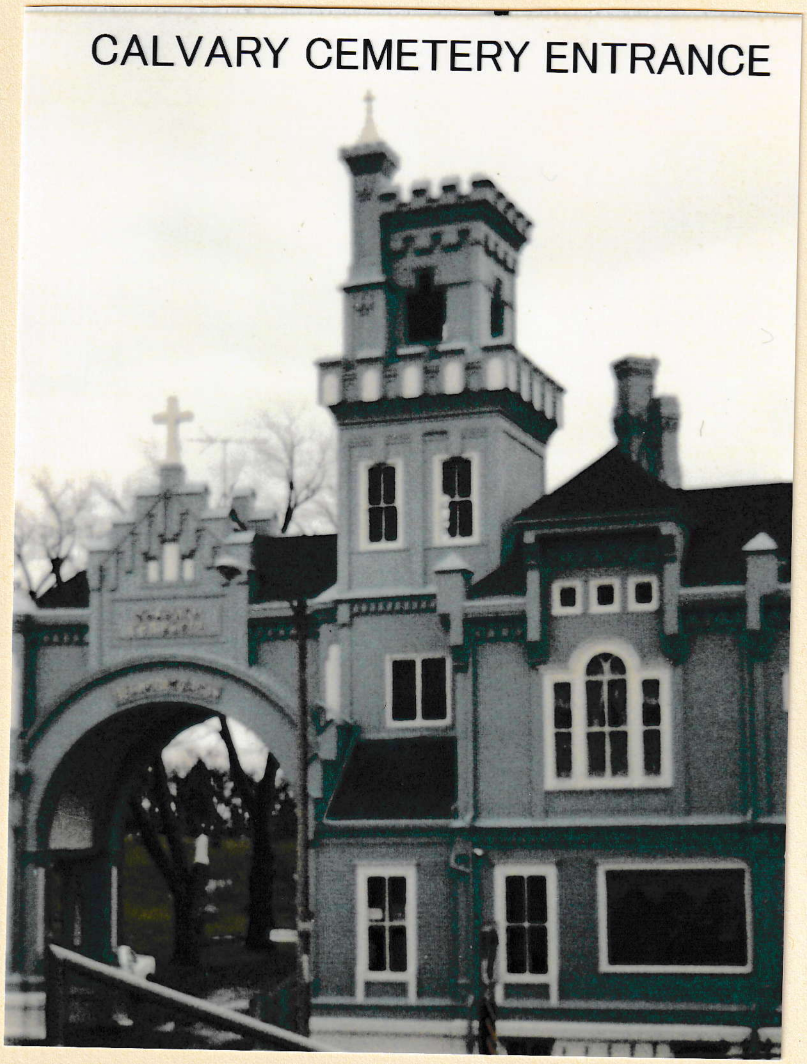
This translating took many hours. Jerome came often in 1959 for a few minutes in the afternoon to see what Father Brell was doing. Jerome admirer Father Brell because he was very devout in saying mass and he was Schoenstatt orientated. All the information that Jerome obtained about Schoenstatt came from Father Brell.

One of the first publications about Schoenstatt was a leaflet made by Father Brell and these leaflets were placed in a little rack in the Schoenstatt Shrine. Thus Jerome learned the Schoenstatt litany and other songs by listening to Father Brell sing.

Father Brell could also play the organ. In the winter Father Brell wore a brown leather jacket which Jerome admired. Father Brell was a very dignified person. Once when Father Brell saw Jerome running down the driveway he said: "Jerome don't run down the driveway. Walk it because it more dignified."


FATHER BRELL MAY 1961

Father William Brell in procession with the MTA picture that came from Father Kentenich's office to the exile shrine in May, 1961. Jerome made the procession throne and carrier for the picture.



CALVARY CEMETERY ENTRANCE

Calvary Cemetery entrance across the street from the Pallottine Mother house at 54 Th St. and Bluemound, Milwaukee, Wi.

Calvary Cemetery

Across the street from Holy Cross Church was the entrance to Calvary cemetery. The entrance was interesting because it appeared as a fort like structure. It was really a house and office with an attached arch structure which had a bell tower.

When a hearse and the following cars turned into the cemetery the bell would began to toll. Father Kentenich liked to walk through the cemetery which was very large. The monuments were huge some structures were like a small house. On a lot of tomb stones were all kinds of statues especially angels. Some of the angels were frightening looking.

In the middle of the cemetery was a large church build on a hill. If you believed in angels, and demons you had the place which inspired both. The roads that wove around the cemetery were many and paved. I'm sure Father Kentenich could walk at least an hour or more through the city of the dead.

Also there were a lot of benches to sit on and the many trees had a lot of squirrels looking for nuts. A good place to pray for the dead.

Did Father Kentenich have any deep personal attachments to any priests in Milwaukee.

Jerome observation of Father Kentenich from 1956 thru 1960 observed no deep personal relationships with any of the community priests.

Father Kentenich spoke German to Father Meyer, Father Brell and Father Hass. Jerome never saw Father Kentenich visit with any of these priests in their offices. Since Father Kentenich never went into the recreational room it seems other than prayers and common meals Father Kentenich was very much left alone.

Father Kentenich had much more a personal relationship with Sister Winifrede and Sister Erica his secretaries. There was a very deep personal relationship between Jerome and Father Kentenich. In the case of Jerome there was the kneeling of Jerome beside Father Kentenich and his placing Jerome's hands in his lap and on his breast or heart.

Prior to Father Kentenich going into exile it seems that Father Kentenich spend a lot of time visiting Schoenstatt Sisters houses. Even in South America and Africa Father Kentenich spend a lot of times with Schoenstatt Sisters.